CITY OF REDMOND TRAILS COMMISSION



MINUTES — May 28, 2003 **Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center**

Chairperson Gary Smith, Kris Colt, Sue COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chenault, Glenn Eades, Ken Bechmann, Julie Barnfather (arrived at 8:20 p.m.); Youth Advocate Emily Thompson

ABSENT: Maureen McCoy

CITY STAFF: Tim Cox, Manager of Parks Planning; Linda Gorremans, Park

Planner; Jeanne Koetje and Joel Pfundt, Transportation Department

AUDIENCE: None

Note: Bold/italic text denotes Staff and Commissioner follow-up resulting from this meeting.

<u>AGENDA</u>

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gary Smith called to order the regular meeting of the Redmond Trails Commission (RTC) at 7:00 p.m. at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center (ORSCC).

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion for approval of April 30, 2003 RTC minutes as submitted by:

Commissioner Colt

Second by: Commissioner Eades Motion carried: Unanimous 5-0

III. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

IV. ITEMS OF INTEREST/HANDOUTS

A. King County Trails Map

Handout

B. Redmond Area Trails and Bike Lanes Map

Cox presented the newest draft of the revised Redmond trails map with its color changes and additions. He stated the next revision would highlight the trails in bold. The map development is progressing well toward a more finished product. Cox noted that this draft would be the map available for handout at the National Trails Day event. Commissioners had these comments:

- Correct the trail through Marymoor Park.
 - Cox will follow up on the correction.
- The paved trails do not stand out as much as the unpaved.
 - Cox noted those would be fixed as revisions ensue.
- Although this map does not have the space, Commissioners would eventually like a map to show the trailheads, places to park, and the restrooms.
 - Cox reported the PRO Plan map would include aerial photos of the parks with legends that explain facilities contained within the parks.

Cox elaborated that eventually, from the PRO Plan map and as budget allows a more finalized product, staff plans to simulate the Surrey, B.C. Canada map, of which Commissioners were in favor as a model. The 20x30 inch glossy production would include trailheads, etc. In the interim with current resources available, an 11x17 map would be produced from the City's new color printer.

Smith noted that in this week's issue of the *Redmond Reporter*, it was stated a Redmond trails map would be distributed by RTC at their National Trails Day event. Cox confirmed that map would be the current draft.

Chenault reiterated she has maps of the Watershed she will attempt to deliver to the Redmond Ridge event that will be ongoing concurrently with National Trails Day. *If she is not able to deliver them to Redmond Ridge, she will bring the maps to the RTC event.*

C. Trail Tracks

Commissioners expressed they would like to continue to receive the *Trail Tracks* handouts. *Cox will continue to bring these handouts.*

V. <u>DISCUSSION AND REPORTS</u>

A. Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)

Joel Pfundt, Transportation Division of Public Works, presented handouts of (1) a map of the TIP 2003 current major project status, and (2) TIP completed and new projects. He covered what would go on the draft 6-year TIP 2004-2009 document. The TIP is a shorter version than the 20-year Comp Plan, and is used in applying for grants, as well as feeding into the CIP development.

Page one showed the current TIP projects to be completed that will be removed from the new TIP. Page two covered the new projects broken down into key implementation areas:

- Downtown Transportation Master Plan Projects
 - West end Bear Creek Parkway extension is a priority to move traffic out of the downtown area.
 - Re-design Cleveland.
 - Transit oriented development at the downtown Park and Ride.
- Bell-Red-Overlake Transportation Study Projects
 - Bring existing conditions up to date of the 12 remaining projects the City has agreed to do with Bellevue.
- High Priority Capacity Projects
 - A future plan following the purchase of the BNRR is to widen Willows Road from 116th to 124th to five lanes, making use of the right-of-way. Until the purchase, the City would re-pave the existing road with bike lanes on both sides.
- Grant Related Projects
 - Cox commented on the Bear-Evans Creek trail from Redmond Way to Union Hill Road. Staff is studying possibilities to take the trail under Redmond Way, since the grant money received might support that. If that route is not feasible, the trail would go up the hill and use the new crosswalk by Blockbuster Video. A crosswalk would go in that location regardless of the trail route.
 - Updating signal controls (RITS); a grant was received for this.
- Other Projects
 - This category includes the PSE extension, which is derived from the Willows/Rose Hill neighborhood plan as a high priority project.

- Cox reported that PSE has approached the City to help provide wetland mitigation for a project in King County. In return, the City has asked for dialogue with PSE on extending the PSE Trail west up the hill.
- Pfundt noted that a question remains as to what mechanism would be used to cross Willows, although a crossing would not be insurmountable.
- Kirkland's design is to line the trail to their pedestrian overpass over 405 and terminate at Lake Washington.
- Redmond Way and NE 76th Street intersection improvement: eastbound to northbound dual left turns.

Pfundt added that the City is identifying opportunities with other cities' designs as well. He noted page three of the handout is an analysis of how the money is invested and how projects are ranked.

B. NE 116th Corridor

Pfundt presented an explanation in response to RTC's concerns over the Planning Commission's discussion of NE 116th. The corridor is currently being developed incrementally as development occurs. Because of site restrictions with the rolling grade, the design was drawn to accommodate and eliminate these restrictions and require developers to meet design standards. The problem exists where the developer cannot elevation-change only half the street. It has been difficult to negotiate between the City and developer.

Staff devised a new way to generate revenue for this project, and they are now working with the Planning Commission regarding project costs, impact fees, etc. Staff would like them to focus on the impact fee overlay district—not re-designing the cross section. The Planning Commission is looking at the Development Guide amendments and modifications to the impact fee. They are not looking at reducing the project, and they are not in a position to recommend to City Council that the cross section be modified. Pfundt emphasized that staff has worked more with a Planning Commission subcommittee to get them focused on the amendment, not the design.

Colt expressed concern that the Planning Commission is not considering RTC's position, an omission they have made in the past. She asked Pfundt to be watchful of their direction and to alert RTC if it would behoove them to attend a Planning Commission meeting in order to make known their position.

Jeanne Koetje explained the preliminary design Phase II current situation. The City is looking for additional recommendations for vertical and horizontal profiles, e.g., to stormwater, utility issues, sensitive area impacts, etc. that were not addressed in the preliminary. The horizontal scope has especially posed questions and problems. They are asking an engineering consultant, W&H Pacific, to look at these issues. Some of the issues in question are, e.g., neighbors not wanting to develop now, wetlands in the trail corridor, how to get trail users from one end of the corridor to the other. There may not be an ultimate design to provide all that.

Cox stated the more percentage there is of developed commitment, the less likely 116th would be re-designed. There may perhaps have to be compromises to the problem areas. The changes could make the corridor interesting and innovative.

Koetje noted that there would be more public involvement to keep the public informed. Staff will be getting updated cost estimates on the project. As they are working on the scope with W&H Pacific, they anticipate going to Council with the recommendation in July.

C. National Trails Day - June 7, 2003

Linda Gorremans, Park Planner, displayed the American Hiking Society posters for RTC's National Trails Day event to be held at Luke McRedmond Park. The RTC banner will be used as well. Gorremans reported that press releases went out to four newspapers. However, because the advertising is free, the media offers no guarantee of publishing.

Commissioners confirmed their volunteer hours noted on the handout for staffing the tent. Chenault volunteered the 1:00-3:00 p.m. vacant slot. Eades will be unavailable due to a conflict. Smith noted that if any Commissioner cannot make their time commitment, to call McCoy to see if she might be able to substitute.

Gorremans reported that the Fire Department would not attend due to the elimination of their overtime budget. However, they offered to assemble a board containing the helmet program and a number to call. Smith responded that displaying the board could depend on whether or not there was other bicycle representation. He would not be opposed to display the board, however.

Gorremans suggested making letters available for the public to sign in support of the Bear-Evans Creek Trail (BECT). They could be collected

from the public on the spot. These letters would be supportive of the City when it applies for the IAC grant. Gorremans showed two large boards depicting the BECT and Greenway design plan, and suggested they be displayed at the event. **Commissioners concurred**; **Gorremans will follow up with the letters.**

Gorremans reported the City is still negotiating with the County for the Bridle Crest Trail. There are six houses that are encroaching onto the King County property by 30 feet (the County was unaware of them). They do not affect the trail itself. The City may recommend accepting the trail, then dealing with the encroachments at a later time.

Gorremans offered to provide a large City of Redmond map on a board for people to put stickers or pins to indicate trails they use. She emphasized the importance of Commissioners talking to the public about future trails in Redmond. She confirmed that no trail user counts would be done.

Cox reported the Police Department has not responded to the invitation to the event. If there is a police presence on bicycle, it would be few in number. Cox will follow up with a supply of bottled water to hand out, as well as the leftover water bottles from Grass Lawn Soccer dedication event. Cox will contact Kevin Husemann, Park Operations, to provide Watershed maps for Trails Day.

Smith noted that visually the big draw would be the kayaks. About 30 will be present, provided by Aqua Sports. Fifteen to 20 kayak demos will be available to take out on the water. Aqua Sports will have liability release statements for the public to sign. Since they will be promoting their business that weekend, they will also have a BBQ in the late afternoon.

Smith also noted there would be no Sanicans at the site. Aqua Sports have offered the use of their restrooms (located near Luke McRedmond Park). The Senior Center will also be open for restroom availability. Teresa Kluver, Supervisor of Park Operations, is orchestrating the set up and break down of the tents, etc. Kevin Husemann, Park Operations, is the contact person.

D. Summer Meeting Schedule

Smith announced that per the response sheet of Commissioners' schedules, RTC would meet throughout the summer. There will be a quorum (minimum of four) present each month.

Commissioners discussed meeting plans for the winter holiday as well. It was tentatively decided to hold a meeting on the second Wednesday of December, 12/10/03, in place of a November and December meeting.

E. Trails Category Draft

Deferred to next month per Cox.

F. Revised Regional Trails Map

Cox reported that staff asked King County what future trails were proposed, especially east of Redmond. He showed a map provided by Tom Eksten that depicted the proposed trails, including those trails east of the City. The City would use this map to help show those County connections on the new City map.

G. City Council Ombudsman Report - Eades

Eades reported that the Ombudsman statement in the City Council 5/6/03 minutes declared that the neighbors opposed the trail behind the Redmond High School. Eades wondered if they were referring to the 172nd trail, an established trail. *Cox will follow up with regard to this statement. He also invited Eades to contact Council members should he so desire.*

Chenault also addressed the unnamed, overgrown trail east of the high school from 104th going north, that may eventually connect to the PSE trail. She thought it seemed to be a continuation from Hidden Ridge, yet without destination, dead-ending at a fence. She believed it should be given a name, in case that in the future it could be useful as a neighborhood trail should the fence be removed. Cox stated the trail is a City right-of-way, but that it is not likely the fence would be removed. Bechmann remembered that last year he requested the trail be removed from the map because it had no destination and was overgrown. Colt concurred with Chenault that it should be established and kept as the City's right-of-way and designated as a future trail on the map.

H. Leary Way and Redmond Way Kiosk

Smith asked staff if the City had any plans to use the kiosk at the Leary Way pocket park. Cox replied the City does control the kiosk, but has no plans. Smith asked to post some of the larger trails maps on the kiosk. Cox will inquire as to whether or not maps could be posted.

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I. City of Redmond National Bicycle Award

Eades reported the City has been re-affirmed by a national bicycle organization as "Bicycle Friendly" in their highest "gold" category. A presentation of the award will be made at the City Council meeting on June 17.

VI. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Smith at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Recording Secretary, Pam Maybee

THE NEXT REDMOND TRAILS COMMISSION MEETING:
Wednesday, June 25, 2003
Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center
7:00 p.m.

CITY OF REDMOND TRAILS COMMISSION



May 28, 2003 **Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center**

Audience Present

<u>Please note</u>: Information provided at this public meeting becomes part of the City's permanent record.

NAME	ADDRESS			PHONE
Jeanne Koetje	Transportation Works	Division,	Public	425-556-2887
Joel Pfundt	Transportation Works	Division,	Public	425-556-2750